

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/087,173

Examiner

Mark Ruthkosky

Applicant(s)

HINTON ET AL.

Art Unit

1745

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 5/13/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are ~~1-14 and 16-31~~ 1-13 and 15-31. MR 7/7/04
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 13 May 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Mark Ruthkosky 7/7/04
Mark Ruthkosky
Primary Patent Examiner
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DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

The drawings filed on 5/13/2004 are approved.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The rejection of claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hoffman et al (US 6,117,584) has been overcome by the applicant's cancellation of the claim.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-13 and 15-31 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The instant claims are to an apparatus for cooling and positioning prismatic battery cells comprising a prismatic battery cell with an active material in a sealed pouch; a cooling fin made of a thermally conductive material with bent tabs; a pair of terminal tabs that reach into the pouch and draw heat away from the cell; and railings along the length of said cell whereby the cooling fin is attached to an area of the cell bound by the railings and bent tabs.

The prior art does not teach an apparatus for cooling and positioning prismatic battery cells comprising a prismatic battery cell with an active material in a sealed pouch; a cooling fin made of a thermally conductive material with bent tabs; a pair of terminal tabs that reach into the pouch and draw heat away from the cell; and railings along the length of said cell whereby the cooling fin is attached to an area of the cell bound by the railings and bent tabs. For example,

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Hoffman et al (US 6,117,584) teaches a thermal conductor for electrochemical cells. The conductor includes an active material sealed in a prismatic container (col. 3, lines 10-20; col. 4, lines 10-20); a cooling fin made of a thermally conductive material attached to a cell (col. 7, lines 55+); and a pair of terminal tabs that reach into the pouch to draw heat away from the cell. The reference does not teach a cooling fin made of a thermally conductive material with bent tabs and railings along the length of said cell whereby the cooling fin is attached to an area of the cell bound by the railings and bent tabs. As this configuration is not taught in the prior art, the claims are allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Examiner Correspondence

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark Ruthkosky whose telephone number is 571-272-1291. The examiner can normally be reached on FLEX schedule (generally, Monday-Thursday from 9:00-6:30.) If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick Ryan can be reached at 571-272-1292. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

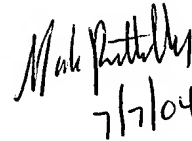
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may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free.)

Mark Ruthkosky

Primary Patent Examiner

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7/7/04